

Message

From: J. Steven Hart [jshart@wms-jen.com]
Sent: 1/31/2018 4:06:10 PM
To: Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]

This is a backwater slot. Dennis says John is good if you are still looking for personnel

From: Treacy, Dennis [mailto:dtreacy@smithfield.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 12:28 PM
To: J. Steven Hart
Cc: Frank C. Vlossak
Subject: Re: FPISC

He would be good for EPA also. This fellow was the Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources under Gilmore and then Assistant under secretary of Civil Works under Bush. He would be very loyal to Trump.

Dennis H. Treacy
President,
Smithfield Foundation
Smithfield Foods, Inc.

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Paul Woodley <jpwoodley@advantusstrategies.com>
Date: October 24, 2017 at 9:06:30 AM EDT
To: "Dennis H. Treacy (dennistreacy@smithfieldfoods.com)"
<dennistreacy@smithfieldfoods.com>
Subject: FPISC

Dennis—here it is. It's called the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council. It has an Executive Director.

I told the WH I would be interested if it was serious about it, not otherwise.

I haven't heard back since. I don't know if they filled the job or not. Richard G. Kidd IV was the original ED. He may still be there. I don't know him, but I understand he was borrowed from the Pentagon for this.

<https://www.permits.performance.gov/about/federal-permitting-improvement-steering-council-fpisc-agencies>

Best,

John Paul Woodley, Jr.

Advantus Strategies

9617 Staysail Ct.

Burke, Virginia 22015

Direct Line: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Cell: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

<http://www.advantusstrategies.com>

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Message

From: J. Steven Hart [jshart@wms-jen.com]
Sent: 2/20/2018 10:00:33 PM
To: Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Federal FY 2019 Budget Requests
Attachments: CBC Federal Agency Budget Request - FY 2019 (final).pdf; ATT00001.htm

Dennis wants to help. I care if you care.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Treacy, Dennis" <dtreacy@smithfield.com>
Date: February 20, 2018 at 3:27:44 PM EST
To: "fcvlossak@wms-jen.com" <fcvlossak@wms-jen.com>, Steve Hart <jshart@wms-jen.com>
Subject: Fwd: Federal FY 2019 Budget Requests

FYI

Dennis H. Treacy
Board Member
Smithfield Foundation
Smithfield Foods, Inc.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ann Swanson <aswanson@chesbay.us>
Date: February 20, 2018 at 2:30:43 PM EST
To: "Adam Pankake (Yaw) (apankake@pasen.gov)" <apankake@pasen.gov>, "Ann Jennings - VA Natural Resources (ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov)" <ann.jennings@governor.virginia.gov>, Ann Swanson <aswanson@chesbay.us>, "Ann Watts (Throwe) (ann.watts@maryland.gov)" <ann.watts@maryland.gov>, "Barbara Frush (barbara.frush@house.state.md.us)" <barbara.frush@house.state.md.us>, "Bernie Fowler (riverman@chesapeake.net)" <riverman@chesapeake.net>, "Chad Reichard (Alloway) (creichard@pasen.gov)" <creichard@pasen.gov>, "Chanin Zwing (Everett) (czwing@pahousegop.com)" <czwing@pahousegop.com>, "Cheryl Gruber (Gillespie) (Cgruber@pahousegop.com)" <Cgruber@pahousegop.com>, "David Goshorn (david.goshorn@maryland.gov)" <david.goshorn@maryland.gov>, "David L. Bulova (DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov)" <DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov>, "Dennis Treacy (dtreacy@smithfield.com)" <dtreacy@smithfield.com>, "Diana Carroll (Belton) (diana.carroll@maryland.gov)" <diana.carroll@maryland.gov>, "Emma Manzi -Admiral- (emma.manzi@navy.mil)" <emma.manzi@navy.mil>, "Emmett W. Hanger Jr. (district24@senate.virginia.gov)" <district24@senate.virginia.gov>, "Frank W. Wagner (district07@senate.virginia.gov)" <district07@senate.virginia.gov>, "Garth D. Everett (Geverett@pahousegop.com)" <Geverett@pahousegop.com>, "Gene Yaw (gyaw@pasen.gov)" <gyaw@pasen.gov>, "Guy Guzzone " **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** "Guy Guzzone (guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us)" <guy.guzzone@senate.state.md.us>, "Heather Reim (McDonnell) (hreim@pa.gov)" <hreim@pa.gov>, Jennifer Donnelly <jdonnelly@chesbay.us>, "Joanne Throwe (joanne.throwe@maryland.gov)" <joanne.throwe@maryland.gov>, "John \"Jack\" Scorby (john.c.scorby@navy.mil)"

[<john.c.scorby@navy.mil>](mailto:john.c.scorby@navy.mil), "Judy Brennan (Middleton) (jbrennan@senate.state.md.us)"
[<jbrennan@senate.state.md.us>](mailto:jbrennan@senate.state.md.us), "Keith Gillespie (Kgillesp@pahousegop.com)"
[<Kgillesp@pahousegop.com>](mailto:Kgillesp@pahousegop.com), "Kenya Colbert (Goshorn)
(kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov)" [<kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov>](mailto:kenya.colbert1@maryland.gov), "Linda Fiorilla (Yaw)
(lfiorilla@pasen.gov)" [<lfiorilla@pasen.gov>](mailto:lfiorilla@pasen.gov), "Lisa Daniels (Ldaniels@pa.gov)"
[<Ldaniels@pa.gov>](mailto:Ldaniels@pa.gov), "Maggie McIntosh" **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy "Maggie McIntosh (maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us)"
[<maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us>](mailto:maggie.mcintosh@house.state.md.us), Marel King [<mkking@chesbay.us>](mailto:mkking@chesbay.us), "Margaret
Ransone (DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov)" [<DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov>](mailto:DelMRansone@house.virginia.gov),
"Mark J. Belton (mark.belton@maryland.gov)" [<mark.belton@maryland.gov>](mailto:mark.belton@maryland.gov), "Mathew
Stegman (McIntosh) (Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us)"
[<Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us>](mailto:Matthew.Stegman@mlis.state.md.us), Matthew Fleming -DNR-
[<matthew.fleming@maryland.gov>](mailto:matthew.fleming@maryland.gov), "Matthew J. Strickler
(Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov)" [<Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov>](mailto:Matt.Strickler@governor.virginia.gov),
"McDonnell, Patrick" [<pmcdonnell@pa.gov>](mailto:pmcdonnell@pa.gov), "Meryem Karad (Strickler)
(Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov)" [<Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov>](mailto:Meryem.Karad@governor.virginia.gov), "P.
Michael Sturla (msturla@pahouse.net)" [<msturla@pahouse.net>](mailto:msturla@pahouse.net), "Richard L. Alloway II
(alloway@pasen.gov)" [<alloway@pasen.gov>](mailto:alloway@pasen.gov), "Rita Zielonis (Yaw)
(rzielonis@pasen.gov)" [<rzielonis@pasen.gov>](mailto:rzielonis@pasen.gov), "Sarah Diebel (sarah.diebel@navy.mil)"
[<sarah.diebel@navy.mil>](mailto:sarah.diebel@navy.mil), "Stacy Gregson (Alloway) (sgregson@pasen.gov)"
[<sgregson@pasen.gov>](mailto:sgregson@pasen.gov), "Tawanna Gaines" **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy "Tawanna P. Gaines
(Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us)" [<Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us>](mailto:Tawanna.Gaines@house.state.md.us),
"Thomas \"Mac\" Middleton (Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us)"
[<Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us>](mailto:Thomas.mclain.middleton@senate.state.md.us), **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy "Veronica Kasi (Nicki) (vbkasi@state.pa.us)"
[<vbkasi@state.pa.us>](mailto:vbkasi@state.pa.us), "Warren Elliott" **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Subject: Federal FY 2019 Budget Requests

Dear Chesapeake Bay Commission Members:

At our January meeting in Annapolis, we spent time reviewing a planned approach to influence federal FY 2019 budget decisions related to Chesapeake Bay. You directed staff to pursue the proposed course of action, and I can now report that the first step on our timeline has been completed – the production of a formal public document outlining our “Federal Agency Budget Request – Fiscal Year 2019” (pdf copy attached).

With the roll-out of the Administration’s budget last week, the completion of this phase of our work could not be more timely. Although further analysis awaits, it is clear – exemplified by the 90% proposed reduction to EPA’s Bay Program – that the Administration’s budget would be a great set-back for the Bay. We must maintain the momentum.

Each member of the Congress has been asked to identify their budget priorities by mid-March. Our next step is to work with the Executive Committee and each State delegation to send letters in the next week to each Congressional member in our watershed asking them to convey these priorities. We will also contact each House and Senate budget committee chair and subcommittee chair. And we will continue our dialogue at May Commission meeting in Washington.

Please feel free to share the document with your colleagues at all levels and post it on your websites and Facebook pages. Call or email us if you would like a supply of printed

copies. We want to get this report into the hands of those who, like you, can influence this process.

Ann

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CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION · FEBRUARY 2018

FEDERAL AGENCY BUDGET REQUEST

FISCAL YEAR 2019

BUDGET REQUEST SUMMARY

Funding at national level unless noted; all dollar amounts in thousands (K).

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- EPA: Chesapeake Bay Program: \$73,000K
- EPA: Nonpoint Source (Sec. 319) Grants: \$179,915K
- EPA: Pollution Control (Sec. 106) Grants: \$230,806K
- EPA: Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund: \$1,394,000K
- DOI—Land and Water Conservation Fund (all agencies): \$400,000K
- DOI—USGS: Regional & Crosscutting Activities — Chesapeake Bay: \$12,600K
- DOI—USFWS: Cooperative Landscape Conservation: \$12,988K
- DOI—USFWS: Habitat Conservation — Coastal Programs: \$13,375K
- DOI—NPS: Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Trails Program: \$2,000K
- USDA—Forest Service: Forest Stewardship Program: \$20,036K

Energy and Water Development

- USACE: Construction — Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery, MD & VA: \$5,000K
- USACE: Construction — Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection (Sec. 510): \$5,000K
- USACE: Construction — Poplar Island: \$36,250K
- USACE: Construction — Continuing Authorities Program — Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Sec. 206) \$9,000K and Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection (Sec. 14) \$5,000K.

Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

- NOAA—NMFS: Habitat Conservation and Restoration: \$53,342K
- NOAA—NMFS: Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions: \$35,871K
- NOAA—OAR: National Sea Grant Program: \$65,000K

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food & Drug Administration and Related Agencies

- USDA—NRCS: Conservation Technical Assistance: \$768,844K
- USDA—NRCS: Farm Bill Programs: No Changes in Mandatory Programs

Federal Investments Are Working

LIKE NEVER BEFORE, REAL PROGRESS IS BEING seen in Chesapeake Bay restoration. Record acres of submerged aquatic vegetation, reduced areas of oxygen-starved water, and a burgeoning aquaculture industry are signposts that the state, federal and legislative partnership to restore the Bay is working. We are gaining momentum.

But continued success depends on maintaining the mutualism of funding among federal, state and local governments, the myriad of non-governmental agencies that support the Bay and private citizens. And the dedication of the Bay's Congressional delegation has been steadfast in providing both the policy and financial wherewithal to achieve improvements in water quality and living resources.

As Congress begins deliberations on the FY 2019 Federal budget, the Chesapeake Bay Commission believes it important to detail in numbers and narrative the federal funding needed to support the Bay.

Who We Are and What We Do

The Chesapeake Bay Commission is a tri-state legislative Commission with members from Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia. We work to advance policy, at all levels of government, to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay. As an organization composed primarily of state legislators, we have a broad understanding of the creation and implementation of programs to achieve strategic objectives by governmental entities and the evaluation of the success of these programs. In our assessment, and supported by tangible results, the state-federal Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership has proven to be highly effective. The current relationship of state-led on-the-ground restoration decisions and actions supplemented by federal coordination, oversight, information and funding is producing real results in cleaner water, healthier fisheries and greater economic and environmental resilience.

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

Environmental Protection Agency

✓ Chesapeake Bay Program: \$73,000K

These monies maintain the pulse of the state-federal partnership to restore the Chesapeake Bay. Program funds are used to coordinate the complex science, research, modeling and monitoring efforts that drive restoration. Of the \$73 million allocated for the Bay, \$31 million is pass-through money provided to support restoration efforts of the jurisdictions.

The Committee Report should continue to specify \$6 million for nutrient and sediment removal grants and \$6 million for small watershed grants to control polluted runoff from urban, suburban and agricultural lands. These grants provide critical support for local restoration efforts and leverage, on average, three times more non-federal money for each project.

✓ Nonpoint Source (Sec. 319) Grants: \$179,915K

An overwhelming majority of Americans—215 million (more than 70 percent)—live within 2 miles of a polluted lake, river, stream or coastal area. States have identified more than 600,000 miles of rivers and streams, more than 13 million acres of lakes and more than 500,000 acres of wetlands that do not meet state water quality goals. Many of these waters are considered unsafe for swimming or are unable to support healthy fish or other aquatic life. The Section 319 grants are a key resource in the effort to improve and protect our nation's waters. In FY 2017, this program provided \$8.4 million for Bay restoration.

✓ Pollution Control (Sec. 106) Grants: \$230,806K

This national program helps states in the Bay watershed manage the federal water pollution permit program, or NPDES. Under the Clean Water Act, it is unlawful to discharge any pollutant into U.S. waters without an NPDES permit. Without sufficient funding, this permit process gets bogged down, resulting in business losses and reduced permit monitoring and enforcement. In FY 2017, this program provided \$20.3 million for Bay restoration.

✓ Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund: \$1,394,000K

This program provides low-cost financing to local communities to improve water-related infrastructure

and local water quality. States have the flexibility to fund a range of projects that address their highest priority water quality needs. Using a combination of federal and state funds, state programs provide loans to eligible recipients to: construct municipal wastewater facilities; control nonpoint sources of pollution; build decentralized wastewater treatment systems; create green infrastructure projects; protect estuaries; and fund other water quality projects. In FY 2017, this program provided \$204.4 million for Bay restoration.

Department of Interior

✓ Land and Water Conservation Fund (all agencies): \$400,000K

The LWCF is the nation's premier land conservation program. Through locally-driven projects, it provides for the permanent protection of landscapes to safeguard the rivers and streams feeding into the Bay, while supporting local economies through recreation and tourism. Each year, a handful of top-ranked projects within the Bay watershed are selected for funding.

In FY 2019, we support three specific federal agency proposals: \$2 million to protect 250 acres for the Rappahannock River Valley NWR, \$5 million to protect 4,700 acres for the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests and \$3 million to protect 430 acres for the Richmond National Battlefield Park.

The Department of the Interior failed to continue the Land and Water Conservation Fund Collaborative Landscape Conservation initiative for the FY 2019 budget process. We regret this decision as the initiative spurred a considerable boost in collaboration among federal agencies and other partners working to conserve land. Hence, it is recommended that the Committee Report include the following language:

“Rivers of the Chesapeake — The Committee recommends the National Park Service, in cooperation with Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and land conservation organizations, reinvigorate the ‘Rivers of the Chesapeake’ landscape conservation cooperative, to coordinate LWCF requests within the watershed to help achieve the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement.”

U.S. Geological Survey

✓ **Regional and Crosscutting Activities — Chesapeake Bay: \$12,600K**

Decision makers at all levels rely on USGS science to formulate effective plans for reducing the impacts of nutrient, sediment and toxic contaminants, and improve habitat for freshwater fisheries and waterfowl, in the Bay watershed. Without the monitoring and analysis provided by USGS, we will not know if what we are doing is working. This funding is distributed across multiple USGS line-items.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

✓ **Cooperative Landscape Conservation: \$12,988K**

These 22 public-private Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) are a recognition that successful conservation requires voluntary, non-regulatory partnerships that span jurisdictional boundaries. The North Atlantic LCC works to protect the environmental benefits of the Chesapeake Bay.

✓ **Habitat Conservation — Coastal Programs: \$13,375K**

This is a voluntary habitat conservation program that provides technical and financial assistance, in collaboration with partners, for the benefit of protected species and resources. The Chesapeake Bay is one of 24 priority coastal ecosystems.

Additionally, the Committee Report should continue to recommend funding for nutria eradication at not less than the FY 2018 level, to remove this invasive species from the marshes of the Chesapeake.

National Park Service

✓ **Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Trails Program: \$2,000K**

This program provides technical and financial assistance to state, community and nongovernmental organizations in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. NPS collaborates with partners to increase access to the Chesapeake Bay and rivers, to conserve important landscapes and resources, to promote tourism and local economies, to engage youth in meaningful work and place-based education, to improve and connect people with recreational opportunities, and to interpret the natural and cultural resources of the Chesapeake region. It is budgeted as part of the Natural Recreation and Preservation-Natural Programs line-item.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Forest Service

✓ **Forest Stewardship: \$23,036K**

This is the primary Forest Service program focused on private forestland management and conservation. Priority uses are: restoring riparian forest buffers, adding urban tree canopy and protecting high value forest.

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

✓ **Construction — Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery, MD & VA: \$5,000K**

Oysters are a cornerstone species of the Bay ecosystem, serving as a water filter. Their reefs provide habitat for many fish and other aquatic species. With current populations at less than 1 percent of historic levels, the Bay agreement targets oyster restoration as a key objective within 10 rivers. Restoration projects in Maryland's Harris Creek and the Tred Avon and Little Choptank Rivers are succeeding. In Virginia, promising results have been reported in the Lafayette, Piankatank and Lynnhaven Rivers. Work remains to be completed and four new areas have been identified for restoration by State partners and funding is needed.

We recommend the same Committee Report narrative as in FY 2018 if specific funding is not identified:

“Oyster Restoration. — The Committee supports the Chesapeake Bay Oyster Restoration Project and encourages the Corps to provide sufficient funding in future budget submission or the fiscal year 2019 work plan.”

✓ **Construction — Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection (Sec. 510): \$5,000K**

With the completion of the USACE's Chesapeake Bay Comprehensive Plan in FY 2018, specific opportunities for funding will be identified for water-related environmental projects to benefit living resources.

✓ **Construction — Poplar Island: \$36,250K**

This project will add valuable wetland habitat to the Chesapeake Bay, and at the same time ensure the economic viability of the Port of Baltimore.

✓ **Construction — Continuing Authorities Program — Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Sec. 206) \$9,000K and Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection (Sec. 14) \$5,000K**

Both these national programs provide funding for habitat restoration in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Commerce and Justice, Science and Related Agencies Subcommittee

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service

✓ **Habitat Conservation and Restoration: \$53,342K**

NOAA's Chesapeake Bay office is budgeted within the Habitat Conservation and Restoration program. This effort supports many Bay Program goals related to critical fisheries, such as population assessment, restoration and habitat improvement. Critical species, such as oysters, blue crabs, striped bass and menhaden, have huge social and economic importance. The states rely on NOAA data and assessments to gauge their management actions.

✓ **Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions: \$35,871K**

Regional fishery councils and commissions are critical to the stewardship and use, both for commercial and recreational purposes, of our migratory fisheries. Working with State representatives from both the executive and legislative branches, policy and management plans are crafted based on the best science and stakeholder engagement.

Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

✓ **National Sea Grant Program: \$65,000K**

The Sea Grant program serves to enhance the practical use and conservation of coastal and marine resources in order to create a sustainable economy and environment. Within the Bay watershed, priorities include research to support sustainable fisheries and aquaculture. In FY 2017, this program provided \$4 million towards Bay restoration.

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food & Drug Administration and Related Agencies Subcommittee

U.S. Department of Agriculture

✓ **Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA): \$768,844K**

CTA is the foundation of NRCS's ability to deliver effective conservation. By working with agricultural producers to prepare and implement conservation plans, sediment and nutrient loads to the Bay are reduced. The Chesapeake Bay Commission just released a policy report, "Boots on the Ground: Improving Technical Assistance for Farmers," that details the needs for CTA in the watershed.

✓ **Natural Resources Conservation Service Farm Bill Programs: No Changes in Mandatory Programs**

In FY 2017, Farm Bill programs provided \$83 million in cost-share assistance to the Bay's farmers, critical to achieving the pollution reductions necessary to meet water quality standards, both locally and in the mainstem of the Chesapeake Bay. Core programs included the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

In Conclusion

Chesapeake Bay restoration can be achieved through the collaborative will, strength and determination of Federal, state and local governments, their legislatures, and the public. The economic value of a clean Bay justifies these requests for level funding in FY 2019. For each federal dollar spent, three dollars in non-federal expenditures are made.



Chesapeake Bay Commission
Policy for the Bay

Headquarters

60 West Street, Suite 406 · Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-263-3420 · www.chesbay.us

Message

From: Jackson, Ryan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=38BC8E18791A47D88A279DB2FEC8BD60-JACKSON, RY]
Sent: 2/20/2018 12:20:10 AM
To: J. Steven Hart [jshart@wms-jen.com]
Subject: Re: Talk?

Very roger stone of you. I think that would be strong.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

On Feb 19, 2018, at 7:14 PM, J. Steven Hart <jshart@wms-jen.com> wrote:

Thought I would appear shirtless with a bottle of tequila

On Feb 19, 2018, at 7:12 PM, Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov> wrote:

I can't think anything good comes of it.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

On Feb 19, 2018, at 7:09 PM, J. Steven Hart <jshart@wms-jen.com> wrote:

Does not give up

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mosk, Matthew" <Matthew.Mosk@abc.com>
Date: February 19, 2018 at 6:33:48 PM EST
To: "JSHart@wms-jen.com" <JSHart@wms-jen.com>
Subject: Talk?

Hello Mr. Hart –

I am a reporter with ABC News. I was hoping to reach you for guidance on a story we are pursuing. I left a message for you mid-week. Would you be available to chat tomorrow or Wednesday? If there is a convenient time, I'd be happy to swing by your office in person. I would be grateful for your help.

Many thanks,

Matthew

Matthew Mosk
Senior Producer, ABC News Investigations
Washington Bureau
matthew.mosk@abc.com

C. Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

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Message

From: Jackson, Ryan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=38BC8E18791A47D88A279DB2FEC8BD60-JACKSON, RY]
Sent: 2/16/2018 12:44:34 AM
To: J. Steven Hart [jshart@wms-jen.com]
Subject: RE: ABC News reporter call

That is very interesting.

From: J. Steven Hart [mailto:jshart@wms-jen.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 3:02 PM
To: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>
Subject: ABC News reporter call

An ABC news reporter called my office with question regarding Scott Pruitt. I did not speak with him- you can assume I will not be calling him back.

Matthew Mosk

C: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Matthew.mosk@abc.com

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This message, and any attachments to it, are from Williams & Jensen, PLLC and are intended only for the addressee. Information contained herein is confidential, privileged and exempt from disclosure pursuant to applicable federal or state law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use, dissemination, distribution, copying or communication of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email and delete the message and any attachments. Thank you

Message

From: Jackson, Ryan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=38BC8E18791A47D88A279DB2FEC8BD60-JACKSON, RY]
Sent: 1/29/2018 10:31:02 AM
To: J. Steven Hart [jshart@wms-jen.com]
CC: Stacey K. Glasscock
Subject: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy (PP) Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Thanks for letting me know.

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

On Jan 28, 2018, at 6:10 PM, J. Steven Hart <jshart@wms-jen.com> wrote:

I visited him on Thursday and he was in bad shape

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carol Jo Williams Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Date: January 27, 2018 at 6:58:23 PM CST
To: "Hart J. Steven" <jshart@wms-jen.com>
Subject: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy So glad you came.
cjwms

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Disclaimer

This message, and any attachments to it, are from Williams & Jensen, PLLC and are intended only for the addressee. Information contained herein is confidential, privileged and exempt from disclosure pursuant to applicable federal or state law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use, dissemination, distribution, copying or communication of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email and delete the message and any attachments. Thank you

Message

From: Jackson, Ryan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=38BC8E18791A47D88A279DB2FEC8BD60-JACKSON, RY]
Sent: 5/7/2017 10:07:44 PM
To: kevin.i.fromer@us.hsbc.com
Subject: RE: Paris Agreement

I'm sorry for the delay. Would Monday work?

From: kevin.i.fromer@us.hsbc.com [mailto:kevin.i.fromer@us.hsbc.com]
Sent: Friday, May 5, 2017 11:05 AM
To: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>
Cc: J. Steven Hart (jshart@wms-jen.com) <jshart@wms-jen.com>
Subject: Paris Agreement

Ryan,

We are a client of Steve Hart's and he's traveling today but suggested I reach out to you. Do you have a couple of minutes for me to call you on the subject of the agreement. I am interested in better understanding the EPA view. Thanks for any time you have, or if better to refer to another person there, I'd welcome that too.

Best,
Kevin

Kevin Fromer

Executive Vice President | Head of Government Affairs
HSBC North America
1401 I Street NW, Floor 5, Washington, DC 20005

Phone.	Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Mobile.	
Email.	
Internet.	

This E-mail is confidential. It may also be legally privileged. If you are not the addressee you may not copy, forward, disclose or use any part of it. If you have received this message in error, please delete it and all copies from your system and notify the sender immediately by return E-mail.

Internet communications cannot be guaranteed to be timely, secure, error or virus-free. The sender does not accept liability for any errors or omissions.

SAVE PAPER - THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT!

Message

From: Ebbs, Stephanie [Stephanie.Ebbs@abc.com]
Sent: 3/29/2018 5:02:54 PM
To: Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Subject: Follow up questions

Hey guys,

Can you provide any more information on the lease or rental agreement between the administrator at the Harts?

Also, did Steve Hart or anyone from Williams & Jensen have a role in setting up meetings or making introductions for the Morocco trip?

Thank you

Stephanie Ebbs
ABC News-Washington
(desk)
(cell) @stephebbs

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Message

From: Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/1/2018 6:48:55 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
CC: Leopold, Matt [Leopold.Matt@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: APPROVAL: Story for Monday (posting Sunday) in NYT re Williams & Jensen and Mr. Pruitt. Response needed by 3 p.m. April 1 2018 - Preview

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

On Apr 1, 2018, at 2:45 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Sometimes the images come through and sometimes they do not (internal EPA issue). Here is a link to the release as well:

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Once Ryan and Matt approve, we will send this out.

From: EPA Press Office [mailto:press=epa.gov@cmail19.com] **On Behalf Of** EPA Press Office
Sent: Sunday, April 1, 2018 2:43 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Story for Monday (posting Sunday) in NYT re Williams & Jensen and Mr. Pruitt. Response needed by 3 p.m. April 1 2018 - Preview



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NEWS RELEASE
WWW.EPA.GOV/NEWSROOM

This Response Is Also Available At www.epa.gov.

Mr. Lipton -

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

~~~~~

EPA on March 2011 gave the Fishbridge project an '1B' rating (<http://www.epa.gov/efsa/efsa.htm>). "Category 1 - Adequate The staff/ES&P adequately assess both the environmental impacts of the proposed alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of studying language or information."

Line 67 (previously known as the Athlone Clipper) populates transients trade in from the Western Canadian Lakes and Lake Superior's mining facilities in Quebec, Alberta, Canada to its mining around in Superior, Wisconsin. The United States portion of the March disaster Line 67 populates transients approximately 127 miles from the United States-Canada border into Lake Superior through Minnesota, to Lake Superior's transients in Superior, Wisconsin.

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<sup>22</sup> The 1980s have seen a number of other national associations organized by members of the Williams & Morrow family to educate others on the fact the Prisoners are members of the same group and not as leading the recommendations to the State Department or even receiving it.

Number of days of the year in which the model is used

1000

**DECLARATION**

0302

**000000**

Mr. [redacted] advised that the [redacted] was not a [redacted] but a [redacted] and that the [redacted] was not a [redacted] but a [redacted].

856

ED 003061C 00000475-00002

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Washington, D.C. 20460

MAR 30 2013

OFFICE OF  
GENERAL COUNSEL

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Review of Lease Agreement Under the Federal Ethics Regulations Regarding Gifts

FROM: Kevin S. Minoli *KSM*  
Designated Agency Ethics Official &  
Principal Deputy General Counsel

TO: Matthew Z. Leopold  
General Counsel

---

As requested, the Ethics Office reviewed the lease agreement entered into by E. Scott Pruitt (TENANT) and Vicki Hart (LANDLORD) under the federal ethics regulations regarding gifts. The regulations issued by the Office of Government Ethics are clear that if a federal employee pays market value for something, it is by definition not a gift under those regulations. 5 C.F.R. 2635.203(b)(10)(excluding from the definition of gift "[a]nything for which market value is paid by the employee"). Market value for rental apartments is commonly thought of in terms of rental cost per month. Under the terms of the lease, if the space was utilized for one 30-day month, then the rental cost would be \$1500, which is a reasonable market value. The lease authorized use by the Administrator and his immediate family, specifically including his spouse and children, and consistent with that provision of the lease his immediate family did stay there when they were in Washington, DC. The lease did not require payment when the property was not utilized. Neither of these two provisions render the rental cost under the lease as something other than market value. Therefore, entering into the lease was consistent with federal ethics regulations regarding gifts, and use of the property in accordance with the lease agreement did not constitute a gift as defined in those regulations.

**EPA SENIOR CAREER COUNSEL FOR ETHICS, JUSTINA FUGH:** “I don’t conclude that this is a prohibited gift at all. It was a routine business transaction and permissible even if from a personal friend.” (March 29, 2018)

\*\*\*\*\*

<!--[if !vml]--><image001.png><!--[endif]-->



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20004



[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

---

**From:** Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/1/2018 5:19:34 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Leopold, Matt [Leopold.Matt@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: Story for Monday (posting Sunday) in NYT re Williams & Jensen and Mr. Pruitt. Response needed by 3 p.m. April 1 2018

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ryan Jackson  
Chief of Staff  
U.S. EPA

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

On Apr 1, 2018, at 1:13 PM, Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov> wrote:

And actually —

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Matt, I'd like to get your thoughts of course.

Ryan Jackson  
Chief of Staff  
U.S. EPA

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

On Apr 1, 2018, at 1:10 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

On Apr 1, 2018, at 1:09 PM, Jackson, Ryan <[jackson.ryan@epa.gov](mailto:jackson.ryan@epa.gov)> wrote:

How about

**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

Ryan Jackson  
Chief of Staff  
U.S. EPA

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

On Apr 1, 2018, at 12:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan  
<[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Lipton, Eric"  
<[lipton@nytimes.com](mailto:lipton@nytimes.com)>  
**Date:** April 1, 2018 at 12:51:24 PM

EDT

To: "Wilcox, Jahan"

<wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

"Bowman, Liz"

<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

**Subject: Story for Monday  
(posting Sunday) in NYT re  
Williams & Jensen and Mr. Pruitt.  
Response needed by 3 p.m. April 1  
2018**

Hello Jahan and Liz

Happy holiday to you both.

I am writing a piece for Monday's paper that will post later today (Sunday) that looks at other clients of Williams & Jensen and matters they had pending before the EPA while Mr. Pruitt was living in the condo co-owned in part by the spouse of the firm chairman.

**I have four sets of questions here:**

**FIRST SET OF QUESTIONS:** In March 2017, see attached, the EPA issued a comment letter to the State Department not raising environmental objections to a pipeline project proposed by Enbridge Energy, a Williams & Jensen client, that was seeking a Presidential Permit related to a change in planned operation of a pipeline carrying crude oil to the United States from Canada.

EPA in March 2017 gave the Enbridge project an EO-1 rating. From the EPA rating system: "Category 1 - Adequate The draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information"

This is from the State Department Aug 2017 Final EIS, issued after the EPA rating

"The new Presidential Permit would authorize an increase in flow of crude oil and other liquid hydrocarbons through the 3-mile border segment of Enbridge's existing Line 67 pipeline. Enbridge seeks authorization to increase flow through the border segment from the previous design capacity (500,000 barrels per day for heavy crude oil) to the new design capacity of approximately 890,000 barrels per day for heavy crude oil.

Line 67 (previously known as the Alberta Clipper pipeline) transports crude oil from the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin near Enbridge's existing facilities in Hardisty, Alberta, Canada to its existing terminal in Superior, Wisconsin. The United States portion of the 36-inch diameter Line 67 pipeline travels approximately 327 miles from the United States-Canada border near Neche, North Dakota through Minnesota, to Enbridge's terminal in Superior, Wisconsin."

**Here are my questions for you re this matter:**

- 1) Did the fact that Mr. Pruitt and his daughter was living at the condo owned in part by the spouse of the chairman of Williams & Jensen play a role in the outcome of this matter.
- 2) Did Mr. Pruitt's status as tenant in the unit create the appearance of a conflict of interest, even if in your view, this was not a real conflict.
- 3) Was Mr. Pruitt or any member of his team of political appointees approached by lobbyists for Williams & Jensen related to Enbridge matter or did Mr. Pruitt or any member of his team play any role in crafting the recommendation to the State Department or even reviewing it?

**SECOND SET OF QUESTIONS**



**Another Williams & Jensen client is Colonial pipeline. See the attached disclosure.**

In Alabama Sept and Oct, 2016, about 500,000 gallons spilled in total between the two events related Colonial. Second one was an explosion with two people killed, 4 injured. From press reports it appears they paid only \$1.3 million fine to state, plus \$1.8 million in projects, in March 2018.

See: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-colonial-co-leak-alabama/colonial-pipeline-to-pay-alabama-3-3-million-for-2016-spills-state-official-idUSKCN1GR3F1>. I don't see any evidence of federal enforcement for this.

### **QUESTION**

Is the lack of any apparent federal enforcement by the EPA related to this matter in any way related to Mr. Pruitt's tenure, along with his daughter, as a tenant of the condo owned by the spouse of the chairman of Williams & Jensen?

### **THIRD SET OF QUESTIONS**

Exxon Mobil in May 2017 disclosed that it was in settlement talks with DOJ, EPA over Beaumont refinery incident Exxon Mobil, alleging that the company "failed to identify hazards, failed to design and maintain a safe facility, and failed to mitigate the consequences of a claimed accidental release related to a flash fire that occurred on April 17, 2013. Additionally, based on an on-site inspection in 2013, the DOJ and EPA claim that EMOC failed to include all covered processes in its risk management program and failed to inspect certain process equipment in a timely fashion. The DOJ and EPA are seeking in excess of \$100,000 in penalties and corrective actions to resolve the matter. ExxonMobil is in settlement discussions with the DOJ and EPA, and the parties have entered into a tolling agreement to facilitate settlement discussions."

### **QUESTION:**

Williams & Jensen has represented ExxonMobil (see attachment). Has the way that the EPA handled this matter been influenced by the fact that Mr. Pruitt and his daughter were living in a \$50 a night condo owned in part by the spouse of the chairman of this lobbying firm?

**FOURTH SET OF questions:**

- 1) Some Democrats have called for the EPA Inspector General to investigate this matter. Is that appropriate?
- 2) Several observers have noted that \$50 a night--and an arrangement where Mr. Pruitt only paid for nights where he was actually staying at the condo--is not a fair market payment for this unit, after examining other rentals in the Capitol Hill area. How do you respond to this.

Thanks so much in advance for your help. Hope you are having a nice weekend

Eric

Eric Lipton  
~~The New York Times~~  
Washington Bureau  
Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) office  
mobile  
lipton@nvtimes.com

<2017\_03\_23 EPA comment letter.pdf>

<2017 Enbridge Energy LD-2 Disclosure Form.pdf>

<2017\_ Colonial Pipeline LD-2 Disclosure Form.pdf>

<2017 EXXON LD-2 Disclosure Form.pdf>

**From:** Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/5/2018 6:02:02 PM  
**To:** Kelly, Albert [kelly.albert@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Leopold, Matt [Leopold.Matt@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

---

**From:** Kelly, Albert  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:59 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Albert Kelly  
Senior Advisor to the Administrator  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
202 306 8830

**From:** Jackson, Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:58 PM  
**To:** Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

**From:** Kelly, Albert  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:56 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Albert Kelly  
Senior Advisor to the Administrator  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
202 306 8830

**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:55 PM  
**To:** Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

**From:** Kelly, Albert  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:55 PM  
**To:** Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Albert Kelly  
Senior Advisor to the Administrator  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
202 306 8830

**From:** Leopold, Matt  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:50 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

Lincoln,

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

**Matthew Z. Leopold**  
General Counsel  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
(202) 564-8040

**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:27 PM  
**To:** Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>

Cc: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: Request for comment please

Matt – please review the below responses. Deadline is 3pm.

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ Mr. Chmielewski objected to a proposal to buy a charter aircraft membership for \$100,000-per-month that would have allowed Mr. Pruitt to take an unlimited number of private jet trips for official business

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ One of these staff members objected to a proposal to spend more than \$70,000 to replace the desks in Mr. Pruitt's office suite, including both the administrator's personal desk and one at a security station just outside his office. Pasquale Perrotta argued that the desks should be replaced with a bullet-proof model. This purchase did not go ahead. Instead, a brown-maple wood stand-up desk, was purchased from an Ohio craftsman and a separate desk retrieved a federal government warehouse in Virginia and was refurbished at a cost of \$2,075 for Mr. Pruitt

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ The security detail lead questioned Mr. Pruitt's desire to utilize use of lights and sirens in his motorcade if he was running late, like on his way to a restaurant or airport. In at least one case, Mr. Pruitt wanted these used on his way to Le Diplomate,

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ A member of the security detail also made it be known that he would be reluctant to sign off on requests—which were part of his job to review—for authorization for Mr. Pruitt to fly first class, based on security concerns. Only after Mr. Perrotta took over as security detail lead did Mr. Pruitt begin to regularly fly first class.

++ Others questioned the need for an approximately 20 person security detail team, that provided 24-7 coverage, instead of 5 person "portal to portal" team with the prior EPA administrator.

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ At least one senior staffer questioned the need for the expenses associated with sound proof both, suggesting instead that a broom closet could be used at a total cost of about \$10,000, instead of the final cost for the actual booth of about \$43,000

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

As an aside, we know of the allegations raised against Mr. Chmielewski related to his security clearance that the IG investigated and found were not substantiated. We also know of complaints that he was hard to reach while he was out of the office doing advance work for the VP.

What message does it send to the American public if Mr. Pruitt switches his security detail chief and two other career officials involved with overseeing expenses and a political appointee who did the same thing, after these individuals raise concerns about spending and security practices? Was this appropriate?

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

Should Mr. Pruitt resign based on the series of questions that have been raised about his performance and if not why not?

# Ex. 5 AC/DP

**From:** Friedman, Lisa [<mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 10:02 AM

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Request for comment please

Hi Jahan and Liz

We are finishing work on a story about the EPA that addresses concerns that were raised by certain HQ staff members related to travel, office spending and issues related to security protocols by the Office of the Administrator.

The story notes how four individuals who raised these objections--Kevin Chmielewski, John E. Reeder and Reginald E. Allen, and Eric Weese--were later transferred to different jobs, or moved on their own to a different job after being told to find a new role, or in Kevin's case, put on leave.

We know that there are different circumstances involving each of these individuals, three of whom are career and one is political. But we wanted to go in detail here through some of the issues that these staff members raised and then the way their jobs were shifted after their raised these issues.

We welcome your specific responses to these issues. But we need any response you want to offer by 3 p.m. today, Thursday, April 5.

Here are the specific factual assertions I welcome you to address;

++ Mr. Chmielewski objected to a proposal to buy a charter aircraft membership for \$100,000-per-month that would have allowed Mr. Pruitt to take an unlimited number of private jet trips for official business

++ One of these staff members objected to a proposal to spend more than \$70,000 to replace the desks in Mr. Pruitt's office suite, including both the administrator's personal desk and one at a security station just outside his office. Pasquale Perrotta argued that the desks should be replaced with a bullet-proof model. This purchase did not go ahead. Instead, a brown-maple wood stand-up desk, was purchased from an Ohio craftsman and a separate desk retrieved a federal government warehouse in Virginia and was refurbished at a cost of \$2,075 for Mr. Pruitt

++ The security detail lead questioned Mr. Pruitt's desire to utilize use of lights and sirens in his motorcade if he was running late, like on his way to a restaurant or airport. In at least one case, Mr. Pruitt wanted these used on his way to Le Diplomate,

++ A member of the security detail also made it be known that he would be reluctant to sign off on requests—which were part of his job to review—for authorization for Mr. Pruitt to fly first class, based on security concerns. Only after Mr. Perrotta took over as security detail lead did Mr. Pruitt begin to regularly fly first class.

++ Others questioned the need for an approximately 20 person security detail team, that provided 24-7 coverage, instead of 5 person "portal to portal" team with the prior EPA administrator.

++ At least one senior staffer questioned the need for the expenses associated with sound proof both, suggesting instead that a broom closet could be used at a total cost of about \$10,000, instead of the final cost for the actual booth of about \$43,000

As an aside, we know of the allegations raised against Mr. Chmielewski related to his security clearance that the IG investigated and found were not substantiated. We also know of complaints that he was hard to reach while he was out of the office doing advance work for the VP.

Finally a few additional questions.

## Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

2) What message does it send to the American public if Mr. Pruitt switches his security detail chief and two other career officials involved with overseeing expenses and a political appointee who did the same thing, after these individuals raise concerns about spending and security practices? Was this appropriate?

3) Should Mr. Pruitt resign based on the series of questions that have been raised about his performance and if not why not?

Thanks very much - I'm on my cell,  
Lisa

--  
Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times  
Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) office  
cell

Message

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/5/2018 2:09:09 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert [kelly.albert@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Leopold, Matt [Leopold.Matt@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for comment please

Matt and Lincoln - can you work together on how to respond.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Friedman, Lisa" <lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>  
**Date:** April 5, 2018 at 10:01:48 AM EDT  
**To:** Jahan Wilcox <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>, "Bowman, Liz" <bowman.liz@epa.gov>, Press <press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Request for comment please

Hi Jahan and Liz

We are finishing work on a story about the EPA that addresses concerns that were raised by certain HQ staff members related to travel, office spending and issues related to security protocols by the Office of the Administrator.

The story notes how four individuals who raised these objections--Kevin Chmielewski, John E. Reeder and Reginald E. Allen, and Eric Weese--were later transferred to different jobs, or moved on their own to a different job after being told to find a new role, or in Kevin's case, put on leave.

We know that there are different circumstances involving each of these individuals, three of whom are career and one is political. But we wanted to go in detail here through some of the issues that these staff members raised and then the way their jobs were shifted after their raised these issues.

We welcome your specific responses to these issues. But we need any response you want to offer by 3 p.m. today, Thursday, April 5.

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++ Mr. Chmielewski objected to a proposal to buy a charter aircraft membership for \$100,000-per-month that would have allowed Mr. Pruitt to take an unlimited number of private jet trips for official business

++ One of these staff members objected to a proposal to spend more than \$70,000 to replace the desks in Mr. Pruitt's office suite, including both the administrator's personal desk and one at a security station just outside his office. Pasquale Perrotta argued that the desks should be replaced with a bullet-proof model. This purchase did not go ahead. Instead, a brown-maple wood stand-up desk, was purchased from an Ohio craftsman and a separate desk retrieved a federal government warehouse in Virginia and was refurbished at a cost of \$2,075 for Mr. Pruitt

++ The security detail lead questioned Mr. Pruitt's desire to utilize use of lights and sirens in his motorcade if he was running late, like on his way to a restaurant or airport. In at least one case, Mr. Pruitt wanted these used on his way to Le Diplomate,

++ A member of the security detail also made it be known that he would be reluctant to sign off on requests—which were part of his job to review—for authorization for Mr. Pruitt to fly first class, based on security concerns. Only after Mr. Perrotta took over as security detail lead did Mr. Pruitt begin to regularly fly first class.

++ Others questioned the need for an approximately 20 person security detail team, that provided 24-7 coverage, instead of 5 person "portal to portal" team with the prior EPA administrator.

++ At least one senior staffer questioned the need for the expenses associated with sound proof both, suggesting instead that a broom closet could be used at a total cost of about \$10,000, instead of the final cost for the actual booth of about \$43,000



As an aside, we know of the allegations raised against Mr. Chmielewski related to his security clearance that the IG investigated and found were not substantiated. We also know of complaints that he was hard to reach while he was out of the office doing advance work for the VP.

Finally a few additional questions.

## Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

2) What message does it send to the American public if Mr. Pruitt switches his security detail chief and two other career officials involved with overseeing expenses and a political appointee who did the same thing, after these individuals raise concerns about spending and security practices? Was this appropriate?

3) Should Mr. Pruitt resign based on the series of questions that have been raised about his performance and if not why not?

Thanks very much - I'm on my cell,  
Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times

|                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) | office |
|                             | cell   |

Message

---

**From:** Konkus, John [konkus.john@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/29/2018 8:44:54 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James [hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael [abboud.michael@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

Minus Brad, here's the transcript of the question asked. It doesn't say who asked.

Q Yeah, about Administrator Pruitt. ABC was reporting today that he lived in an apartment that was owned by the wife of a lobbyist who has got a number of clients that do business with the EPA. I'm wondering if the administration feels confident that he was paying, sort of, the market rate for that apartment. And secondly, if there were any general concerns about the fact that he's living in an apartment that is tied to a lobbyist that has business before the EPA.

MS. WALTERS: At this point, I would refer you back to the EPA.

**From:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 4:35 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; lincoln.ferguson@epa.gov; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

Lindsay Walters was asked about this during her press gaggle on AF1. She referred questions back to EPA.

**From:** Comms Alert [mailto:CommsAlert@gop.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 11:30 AM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

**EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'**

ABC News

John Santucci, Matthew Mosk & Stephanie Ebbs

March 29, 2018 – 11:22 AM

[http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/exclusive-cabinet-trouble-trump-epa-chief-lived-condo/story?id=54095310&cid=social\\_twitter\\_abcpn](http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/exclusive-cabinet-trouble-trump-epa-chief-lived-condo/story?id=54095310&cid=social_twitter_abcpn)

For much of his first year in Washington, President Trump's EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt occupied prime real estate in a townhouse near the U.S. Capitol that is co-owned by the wife of a top energy lobbyist, property records from 2017 show.

Neither the EPA nor the lobbyist, J. Steven Hart, would say how much Pruitt paid to live at the prime Capitol Hill address, though Hart said he believed it to be the market rate. The price tag on Pruitt's rental arrangement is one key question when determining if it constitutes an improper gift, ethics experts told ABC News.

"I think it certainly creates a perception problem, especially if Mr. Hart is seeking to influence the agency," said Bryson Morgan, the former investigative counsel at the U.S. House of Representatives Office of Congressional Ethics. "That's why there is a gift rule."

Hart confirmed to ABC News in a brief interview that Pruitt had lived in the flat, which is owned by a limited liability company that links to an address listed to Hart and his wife Vicki Hart, a lobbyist with expertise in the healthcare arena. Steven Hart said Vicki Hart co-owns the condo. He said his wife was not the majority owner, but would not identify her partners.

"I have no ownership interest," he said. "Obviously, I know the owners."

Vicki Hart does no lobbying involving the EPA, her husband said. Her website says she previously worked as a senior health policy advisor for two Senate Majority Leaders before establishing her firm in 2002.

Steven Hart served in the Reagan Justice Department and became, according to his website, is one of the nation's top fundraisers, donating more than \$110,000 to Republican political candidates and committees last election cycle, records show.

In 2010, the newspaper Roll Call referred to the Harts as a "lobbyist power couple."

Mr. Hart is the chairman and CEO of Williams and Jensen, a firm that reported more than \$16 million in federal lobbying income in 2017, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. Among his many clients are the NRA and Cheniere Energy Inc., which reported paying Hart's firm \$80,000 a year.

Hart's firm specifically lobbied on "issues related to the export of liquefied natural gas (LNG), approval of LNG exports and export facilities." The firm also lists on its website that it lobbies on other EPA policies like the Clean Air Act.

Cheniere Energy Inc. owned the only active Liquid Natural Gas export plant in the United States at the time. Liquid natural gas exports was on the agenda for discussion during Pruitt's December 2017 trip to Morocco, according to an agency press release.

On the trip, Pruitt pitched "the potential benefit of liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports on Morocco's economy," the release said.

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On the trip, Pruitt pitched "the potential benefit of liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports on Morocco's economy," the release said.

The revelations about Pruitt's living situation come as more questions are being raised by members of Congress about his travel habits. The Morocco trip was one of Pruitt's most expensive. ABC News has learned that Pruitt, his head of security, and an additional member of his staff, Samantha Dravis, all flew first class on the trip.

The EPA inspector general expanded an audit of Pruitt's travel to include the Morocco trip in response to a request from Sen. Tom Carper, the ranking Democrat on a committee with oversight of EPA. Carper specifically asked the agency watchdog to look into whether Pruitt's activities on the trip were "in line with EPA's mission 'to protect human health and the environment.'"

Both environmental groups and members of Congress pointed out that the jurisdiction over natural gas exports typically falls to the Department of Energy - not the EPA.

A spokeswoman for Cheniere Energy declined to comment.

Another lobbying client of Hart's, the railroad Norfolk Southern, spent \$160,000 last year on lobbying Congress on "issues affecting coal usage, oil production, and transportation, including EPA regulation."

Norfolk Southern also declined to comment when reached by ABC News.

Morgan, an ethics expert in private practice in Washington, D.C., said the lobbying connection only further muddies the living arrangement. He said the rental agreement could create ethics problems for Pruitt even if he did reimburse his landlord for rent.

"What are the terms of the rental agreement?" Morgan asked. "It's not just a question if he is paying market rent. Was he given the ability to end it immediately? Would someone come after him if he were not to pay rent?"

Morgan said the most recent guidance from the Office of Government Ethics "emphasized that executive branch officials should decline even a permissible gift if it could cause the public to question their integrity or impartiality."

EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox declined to answer questions about the arrangement.

Vicki Hart reached on her cell phone, said she would call back to discuss the matter but never did.

Steven Hart declined to address details of the rental agreement, saying it was a private matter and up to Pruitt to decide whether they should be made public.

The White House has not responded to a request for comment from ABC News.

Message

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**From:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/29/2018 8:44:34 PM  
**To:** Rateike, Bradley A. [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John [konkus.john@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James [hewitt.james@epa.gov]; lincoln.ferguson@epa.gov; Abboud, Michael [abboud.michael@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

We talked to Raj and assumed you would kick it back to us. Thank you!

---

**From:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 4:35 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; lincoln.ferguson@epa.gov; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

Lindsay Walters was asked about this during her press gaggle on AF1. She referred questions back to EPA.

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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

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March 29, 2018 – 11:22 AM

[http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/exclusive-cabinet-trouble-trump-epa-chief-lived-condo/story?id=54095310&cid=social\\_twitter\\_abcp](http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/exclusive-cabinet-trouble-trump-epa-chief-lived-condo/story?id=54095310&cid=social_twitter_abcp)

For much of his first year in Washington, President Trump's EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt occupied prime real estate in a townhouse near the U.S. Capitol that is co-owned by the wife of a top energy lobbyist, property records from 2017 show.

Neither the EPA nor the lobbyist, J. Steven Hart, would say how much Pruitt paid to live at the prime Capitol Hill address, though Hart said he believed it to be the market rate. The price tag on Pruitt's rental arrangement is one key question when determining if it constitutes an improper gift, ethics experts told ABC News.

"I think it certainly creates a perception problem, especially if Mr. Hart is seeking to influence the agency," said Bryson Morgan, the former investigative counsel at the U.S. House of Representatives Office of Congressional Ethics. "That's why there is a gift rule."

Hart confirmed to ABC News in a brief interview that Pruitt had lived in the flat, which is owned by a limited liability company that links to an address listed to Hart and his wife Vicki Hart, a lobbyist with expertise in the healthcare arena. Steven Hart said Vicki Hart co-owns the condo. He said his wife was not the majority owner, but would not identify her partners.

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Vicki Hart reached on her cell phone, said she would call back to discuss the matter but never did.

Steven Hart declined to address details of the rental agreement, saying it was a private matter and up to Pruitt to decide whether they should be made public.

The White House has not responded to a request for comment from ABC News.

Message

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**From:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/30/2018 10:04:07 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Jennifer [Jennifer.Bowman@FOXNEWS.COM]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Jahan - FOX q about Pruitt EPA security broke down door to lobbyist condo  
**Attachments:** Evaluation of Lease Agreement2018-03-30-152600.pdf

Wanted to make sure you saw the attached memo and statement from EPA:

**“As EPA career ethics officials stated in a memo, Administrator Pruitt’s housing arrangement for both himself and family was not a gift and the lease was consistent with federal ethics regulations.”** – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

**From:** Bowman, Jennifer [mailto:Jennifer.Bowman@FOXNEWS.COM]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2018 3:31 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Jahan - FOX q about Pruitt EPA security broke down door to lobbyist condo

Jahan or Liz,

Hoping to get some insight on the below reporting – can you confirm this event happened? If nothing else, can you send us the statement from Justina Fugh – about the investigation regarding the condo and its use by Pruitt ? Any background info on how/why the investigation came about?

Thank you!

**Jennifer Bowman | White House Producer | Fox News Channel**

C: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) | C2: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/exclusive-pruitts-epa-security-broke-door-lobbyist-condo/story?id=54129080>

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt’s protective detail broke down the door at the Capitol Hill condo where he was living, believing he was unconscious and unresponsive and needed rescue, in a bizarre incident last year that the EPA has for months refused to discuss, according to sources and police radio traffic obtained by ABC News.

The incident occurred in the late afternoon on March 29, 2017 at the Capitol Hill address Pruitt was renting, which was co-owned by the wife of a top energy lobbyist. A Capitol Police officer called 911 at the behest of Pruitt’s security detail, which had tried unsuccessfully to reach him by phone, and by banging on the building’s front door, according to police recordings obtained by ABC News.

“They say he’s unconscious at this time,” the 911 operator is told, according to the recordings. “I don’t know about the breathing portion.”

Responding fire units from a Capitol Hill station house mobilized. “Engine three, Medic two respond to unconscious person,” the radio transmission said.



The protective detail then broke down the building's glass-paneled front door and ascended two flights to Pruitt's \$50-a-night bedroom, where two sources tell ABC News he was found groggy, rising from a nap. It is unclear what led to the panic that caused the response. Pruitt declined medical attention, and a police report was never filed.

The EPA eventually agreed to reimburse the condo owner for the damage to the door, a source familiar with the arrangement told ABC News. EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox did not respond to requests for information on the incident or the reimbursement payments.

The previously unreported incident occurred while Pruitt was living at Capitol Hill condo co-owned by the wife of a top energy lobbyist. Vicki Hart and her husband, lobbyist, J. Steven Hart, both confirmed the events, but neither would say how much the damage to the door cost to repair.

The EPA has since reimbursed Pruitt's former landlord, Vicki Hart, for the cost of the door.

ABC News first reported Thursday that Pruitt had lived in the condo in 2017, during his first six months in Washington. The condo is in a prime location – less than a block from the U.S. Capitol complex – and other apartments in the building complex have rented for as much as \$5,000-a-month, according to a source familiar with a neighboring lease.

The EPA allowed [Bloomberg News](#) to review copies of canceled checks that Pruitt paid to the condo owner. The news outlet reported that the checks show varying amounts paid on sporadic dates -- not a traditional monthly "rent payment" of the same amount each month, according to Bloomberg. In all, Pruitt paid \$6,100 over six months to the limited liability corporation for the Capitol Hill condo co-owned by Vicki Hart, whose husband J. Steven Hart is chairman of a top D.C. lobbying firm and who is registered to lobby for several major environmental and energy concerns.

Two sources told ABC News that Pruitt's daughter also used the apartment in 2017 during her tenure as a White House summer intern.

"The rental agreement was with Scott Pruitt," Vicki Hart told ABC News. "If other people were using the bedroom or the living quarters, I was never told, and I never gave him permission to do that."

The EPA did not respond to requests for comment or clarification on the living arrangement with Pruitt's daughter. McKenna Pruitt, now a law student, could not be reached by phone or email.

Wilcox released a statement from EPA Senior Counsel for Ethics Justina Fugh Friday, saying she did not "conclude that this is a prohibited gift at all. It was a routine business transaction and permissible even if from a personal friend." Wilcox did not say when Fugh reviewed the matter or what led her to look into it.

Bryson Morgan, who is in private practice and served as Investigative Counsel at the U.S. House of Representatives [Office of Congressional Ethics](#), said he thought it raised red flags. "I think it certainly creates a perception problem, especially if Mr. Hart was seeking to influence the agency," Morgan said.

Gift rules prohibit executive branch employees from accepting items of value, Morgan said in an interview prior to the EPA's release of the details. In addition to traditional gifts, those rules apply to favorable terms on a lease.

"It's not just if he is paying market rent," Morgan said. "A short-term lease is expensive. Is he given the ability to end it any day? Is this an arrangement any other person could get on the open market? My assumption would be this situation does not involve the hallmarks of a specific fair market transaction," he said in an interview conducted before the checks were revealed.

The new disclosure comes as [Democrats in Congress](#) are demanding that Pruitt disclose to them more details about his 2017 use of the Capitol Hill home. U.S. Rep. Don Beyer, a Virginia Democrat, called on Pruitt to resign over his failure to disclose the rental deal tied to an energy lobbyist.

"As he has done over and over again, he showed contempt for transparency, ethical guidelines, and the public interest," Beyer said. "Pruitt must resign. If he refuses to do so he should be fired immediately."

Hart is the chairman of lobbying firm Williams and Jensen that lobbies on EPA policies like the Clean Air Act, according to its website. The firm also lobbied on issues related to the export of liquefied natural gas and represented Cheniere Energy Inc., which owned the only active Liquid Natural Gas export plant in the United States at the time.

Pruitt traveled to Morocco last December and the EPA said in a press release that liquid natural gas exports were a topic of discussion during that trip.

Last year, Cheniere Energy Inc. reported paying Hart's firm \$80,000.

Hart's firm specifically lobbied on "issues related to the export of liquefied natural gas (LNG), approval of LNG exports and export facilities." The firm also lists on its website that it lobbies on other EPA policies like the Clean Air Act.

The EPA did not respond to ABC News' questions about whether Hart's lobbying firm had any involvement in arranging meetings during Pruitt's trip to Morocco.

Cheniere Energy spokeswoman Rachel Carmichel told ABC News the company ended its relationship with Hart's firm in December 2017. The spokeswoman went on to say Cheniere

was unaware of the relationship between Pruitt and the lobbyist and had not used Hart's firm to have conversations with the EPA.

Another lobbying client of Hart's, the railroad Norfolk Southern, spent \$160,000 last year on lobbying Congress on "issues affecting coal usage, oil production, and transportation, including EPA regulation."

Norfolk Southern also declined to comment when reached by ABC News.

Craig Holman, an ethics specialist at Public Citizen, a non-partisan watchdog group, wrote to the EPA Inspector General Thursday to request an investigation into the rental arrangement. If the rental arrangement was anything other than a market rate deal, he wrote, "it would at least constitute a violation of the federal statutes and executive branch rules prohibiting gifts to covered officials from prohibited sources."

"Since Administrator Pruitt is already involved in allegations of accepting gifts of travel, the question arises whether a sense of entitlement may have led him to violate the gift rules on this rental arrangement as well," Holman wrote.

The head of the nonprofit watchdog group the Environmental Integrity Project and former EPA Director of Civil Enforcement Eric Shaffer called on the EPA's inspector general and Congress to look into the issue.

"Does this explain why Pruitt flew to Morocco to pitch natural gas exports, which isn't really an EPA concern?" Schaeffer wrote in a statement.

The EPA inspector general's office is aware of the report, according to spokesman Jeff Lagda.

The agency's inspector general is already looking into the cost of Pruitt's travel and whether the agency followed all proper procedures.

**Ben Florance**

Producer – Fox News Washington  
(202) 824-6397 (W) / (202) 213-0418 (C)

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Washington, D.C. 20460

MAR 30 2018

OFFICE OF  
GENERAL COUNSEL

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Review of Lease Agreement Under the Federal Ethics Regulations Regarding Gifts

FROM: Kevin S. Minoli *KS*  
Designated Agency Ethics Official &  
Principal Deputy General Counsel

TO: Matthew Z. Leopold  
General Counsel

---

As requested, the Ethics Office reviewed the lease agreement entered into by E. Scott Pruitt (TENANT) and Vicki Hart (LANDLORD) under the federal ethics regulations regarding gifts. The regulations issued by the Office of Government Ethics are clear that if a federal employee pays market value for something, it is by definition not a gift under those regulations. 5 C.F.R. 2635.203(b)(10)(excluding from the definition of gift "[a]nything for which market value is paid by the employee"). Market value for rental apartments is commonly thought of in terms of rental cost per month. Under the terms of the lease, if the space was utilized for one 30-day month, then the rental cost would be \$1500, which is a reasonable market value. The lease authorized use by the Administrator and his immediate family, specifically including his spouse and children, and consistent with that provision of the lease his immediate family did stay there when they were in Washington, DC. The lease did not require payment when the property was not utilized. Neither of these two provisions render the rental cost under the lease as something other than market value. Therefore, entering into the lease was consistent with federal ethics regulations regarding gifts, and use of the property in accordance with the lease agreement did not constitute a gift as defined in those regulations.

Message

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**From:** Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/29/2018 6:06:35 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Leopold, Matt [Leopold.Matt@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy [lyons.troy@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: Pruitt's landlord's spouse was also campaign donor

So when we didn't answer their questions they took the story in a direction with the information which they could get.

Ryan Jackson  
Chief of Staff  
U.S. EPA

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

On Mar 29, 2018, at 1:42 PM, Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)> wrote:

**From:** POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard [<mailto:politicoemail@politicopro.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 1:13 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Pruitt's landlord's spouse was also campaign donor

By Alex Guillén

03/29/2018 01:10 PM EDT

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt lived in a Capitol Hill townhouse rented from the spouse of a lobbyist with natural gas and automotive clients, [ABC News](#) reported today.

The lobbyist, J. Steven Hart, donated to Pruitt's campaigns political campaigns to be Oklahoma's attorney general, according to a POLITICO review of campaign finance records. Hart is president, chairman and CEO of the lobbying firm Williams and Jensen.

The apartment near the Capitol is owned by a limited liability company in which Hart's wife, health care lobbyist Vicki Hart, is a minority owner, Hart told ABC, declining to identify her partners. It is not clear what Pruitt paid for the space, or whether Pruitt still resides there when in Washington, D.C. Hart said he thought Pruitt had paid market-rate rent.

Oklahoma [records](#) show Hart gave a total of \$1,750 to Pruitt's AG campaigns between 2010, when he was first elected, and 2012. Pruitt was re-elected in 2014 before he was appointed to run EPA.

Hart's clients include Cheniere Energy, a natural gas company pushing to increase exports. Pruitt traveled to Morocco in December to promote U.S. LNG as an energy source for the country.

Hart also represents the American Automotive Policy Council, a group made up of Fiat Chrysler, Ford and General Motors. All three are involved in EPA's expected decision to revisit auto emissions standards. And EPA is helping prosecute Fiat Chrysler for alleged cheating on emissions testing.

Neither EPA nor Hart immediately returned requests for comment.

*To view online:*

<https://www.politicopro.com/energy/whiteboard/2018/03/pruitt-landlords-spouse-was-also-campaign-donor-915765>

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Yes, very



Somewhat



Neutral



Not really



Not at all

**You received this POLITICO Pro content because your customized settings include: Energy: Scott Pruitt; Energy: EPA. To change your alert settings, please go to <https://www.politicopro.com/settings>**

# POLITICOPRO

This email was sent to [bowman.liz@epa.gov](mailto:bowman.liz@epa.gov) by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

Message

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**From:** Greenwalt, Sarah [greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/1/2018 9:02:40 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Leopold, Matt [Leopold.Matt@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: FINAL APPROVAL DRAFT: Sorry for the emails.

In my opinion, Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 1, 2018, at 4:49 PM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Okay, will do.

On Apr 1, 2018, at 4:39 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Liz, please respond to Eric Lipton with this.

**From:** Bowman, Liz

**Sent:** Sunday, April 1, 2018 4:38 PM

**To:** Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>; Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln

<ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>

**Subject:** Re: FINAL APPROVAL DRAFT: Sorry for the emails.

I would like to respond with the following, rather than put out a release:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)



**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

On Apr 1, 2018, at 3:30 PM, Leopold, Matt <[Leopold.Matt@epa.gov](mailto:Leopold.Matt@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 1, 2018, at 3:19 PM, Wilcox, Jahan  
<[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

**From:** EPA Press Office

[\[mailto:press=epa.gov@cmail20.com\]](mailto:press=epa.gov@cmail20.com) **On Behalf Of** EPA  
Press Office

**Sent:** Sunday, April 1, 2018 3:19 PM

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Story for Monday (posting Sunday) in NYT  
re Williams & Jensen and Mr. Pruitt. Response needed  
by 3 p.m. April 1 2018 - Preview

This Response Is Also Available At [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

Mr. Lipton - here is EPA's response to your questions.

**Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

**EPA SENIOR CAREER COUNSEL FOR ETHICS, JUSTINA FUGH:** “I don’t conclude is a prohibited gift at all. It was a routine business transaction and permissible from a personal friend.” (March 29, 2018)

<image001.png>



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20004



[Unsubscribe](#)

Message

**From:** Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/4/2018 11:08:48 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert [kelly.albert@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Daniell, Kelsi [daniell.kelsi@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Interview request

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018 6:21 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Daniell, Kelsi <daniell.kelsi@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Interview request

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Begin forwarded message:

**Resent-From:** <Press@epa.gov>  
**From:** "Biesecker, Michael" <MBiesecker@ap.org>  
**Date:** April 4, 2018 at 5:30:26 PM EDT  
**To:** "Wilcox, Jahan" <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** "Bowman, Liz" <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>, Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview request

Jahan,

In light of Administrator Pruitt's recent interviews with conservative media outlets, The Associated Press requests the opportunity to interview him today or tomorrow.

In addition, we request clarification on three statements the administrator made over the last day.

In an interview with Fox News on Wednesday, the administrator denied he had any knowledge of the recent raises proved to Sarah Greenwalt and Millan Hupp. Asked who did approve the raises, Pruitt said "I don't know."

*The 1977 provision to the Safe Drinking Water Act authorizes the EPA to hire up to people without the approval of the Senate or the White House specifically grants that authority to the EPA administrator. Did he delegate that authority to someone else? Who?*

In interviews with the Washington Examiner and The Daily Signal, Pruitt denied that Steven Hart had any business with EPA. Lobbying disclosure reports show Hart is registered as personally lobbying EPA. In addition, Williams and Jensen, the firm of which Hart is chairman and CEO, extensively lobbied EPA in the last year on several regulatory issues, according to disclosure reports.

Pruitt's official schedule, provided to AP through a FOIA request, reflects a March 2017 meeting between the administrator, a lobbyist from Hart's firm and two executives from OGE Energy.

*Does the administrator deny the meeting reflected on his calendar occurred? Are the lobbying disclosure reports filed by Williams and Jenson reflecting their lobbying of EPA in error?*

On the condo lease, Pruitt said: "My wife was not here. My children were not here. My wife was back at home in Oklahoma until my kid went to college and my child went to law school."

That contradicts the memo from Kevin Minoli you provided over the weekend, which states: "The lease authorized use by the Administrator and his immediate family, specifically including his spouse and children, and consistent with that provision of the lease his immediate family did stay there when they were in Washington, D.C."

*Does the administrator now deny his daughter stayed at the condo while she interned at the White House last summer?*

I am writing on deadline.

Thanks,

Michael

**From:** Biesecker, Michael

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2018 10:47 AM

**To:** 'Wilcox, Jahan' <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>; Feldman, Carole <[CFeldman@ap.org](mailto:CFeldman@ap.org)>; Pace, Julie <[JPace@ap.org](mailto:JPace@ap.org)>

**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Please give me a call

Jahan,

You have repeatedly suggested that your perspective is not adequately represented in AP copy. But you have repeatedly refused to respond to even basic questions or requests for information, going so far as not even providing copies of agency press releases or notifications of public events. It is difficult to understand how that strategy is productive, and it has not deterred AP from covering your agency.

Let's move forward. I will keep reporting on issues involving EPA for the foreseeable future. You have my numbers.

Michael

---

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2018 10:35 AM

**To:** Biesecker, Michael <[MBiesecker@ap.org](mailto:MBiesecker@ap.org)>; Feldman, Carole <[CFeldman@ap.org](mailto:CFeldman@ap.org)>; Pace, Julie <[JPace@ap.org](mailto:JPace@ap.org)>

**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Please give me a call

Michael –

I am happy to talk with the Associated Press, but we do not believe we can work with you in good faith. We talked with AP yesterday if any those reporters want to reach out please let me

know. I also chatted with someone AP California folks a few weeks, if she wants to reach out I will give on the phone with her right away.

---

**From:** Biesecker, Michael [<mailto:MBiesecker@ap.org>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018 10:28 AM

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[swilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:swilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Please give me a call

Jahan,

I have a few questions I hope we can talk over about information that I would think you would want to appear in AP copy.

Thanks,

Michael



**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**Michael Biesecker**  
Investigative Reporter  
[mbiesecker@ap.org](mailto:mbiesecker@ap.org)  
Twitter: @mbieseck  
[Public Key](#)

1100 13 St. NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005-4076

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

Have a tip for the Associated Press? We have a secure way to send it to us, anonymously. Follow this link for instructions: [www.ap.org/tips](http://www.ap.org/tips)

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"I go with Custer and will be at the death." – AP reporter Mark Kellogg's final dispatch from the Battle of the Little Bighorn, 1876

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please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email.  
Thank you.

Message

---

**From:** Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/5/2018 9:19:39 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert [kelly.albert@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: response to assertions that Hart clients had plenty of business before EPA

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 5:08 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: response to assertions that Hart clients had plenty of business before EPA

**From:** Jennifer A. Dlouhy (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) [<mailto:jdlohy1@bloomberg.net>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 5:06 PM  
**To:** Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** response to assertions that Hart clients had plenty of business before EPA

EPA press, good evening. I'm sure you're inundated.

We may have a story invoking various Steven Hart clients that had business or interactions with EPA in the last year and a half, even if Hart himself did not disclose lobbying the EPA on their behalf in the same time frame. Said clients include Enbridge and Owens-Illinois, which had a CAA settlement via a subsidiary last year. Critics point to this as evidence Administrator Pruitt/EPA should have steered clear of these clients and suggest that was not done sufficiently to erase possible appearances of impropriety.

Do you wish to respond to this?

Thank you,  
Jen.

---

Jennifer A. Dlouhy  
[jdlohy1@bloomberg.net](mailto:jdlohy1@bloomberg.net) / [jendlouhyenergy@gmail.com](mailto:jendlouhyenergy@gmail.com)  
[reporterjen@protonmail.com](mailto:reporterjen@protonmail.com)

### Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Twitter: [@jendlouhyhc](https://twitter.com/jendlouhyhc)  
Stories: <http://bloom.bg/23Crpvk>



Message

---

**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/5/2018 7:00:53 PM  
**To:** Leopold, Matt [Leopold.Matt@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Jackson, Ryan [jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert [kelly.albert@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

Thank you, Matt

---

**From:** Leopold, Matt  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 3:00 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

# Ex. 5 AC/DP

**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 2:21 PM  
**To:** Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:54 PM  
**To:** Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment please

Matt – see edited responses below.

**From:** Ferguson, Lincoln  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 1:27 PM  
**To:** Leopold, Matt <Leopold.Matt@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Request for comment please

Matt – please review the below responses. Deadline is 3pm.

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

~~++ Mr. Chmielewski objected to a proposal to buy a charter aircraft membership for \$100,000-per-month that would have allowed Mr. Pruitt to take an unlimited number of private jet trips for official business~~

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ One of these staff members objected to a proposal to spend more than \$70,000 to replace the desks in Mr. Pruitt's office suite, including both the administrator's personal desk and one at a security station just outside his office. Pasquale Perrotta argued that the desks should be replaced with a bullet-proof model. This purchase did not go ahead. Instead, a brown-maple wood stand-up desk, was purchased from an Ohio craftsman and a separate desk retrieved a federal government warehouse in Virginia and was refurbished at a cost of \$2,075 for Mr. Pruitt

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ The security detail lead questioned Mr. Pruitt's desire to utilize use of lights and sirens in his motorcade if he was running late, like on his way to a restaurant or airport. In at least one case, Mr. Pruitt wanted these used on his way to Le Diplomate,

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ A member of the security detail also made it be known that he would be reluctant to sign off on requests—which were part of his job to review—for authorization for Mr. Pruitt to fly first class, based on security concerns. Only after Mr. Perrotta took over as security detail lead did Mr. Pruitt begin to regularly fly first class.

++ Others questioned the need for an approximately 20 person security detail team, that provided 24-7 coverage, instead of 5 person "portal to portal" team with the prior EPA administrator.

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

++ At least one senior staffer questioned the need for the expenses associated with sound proof booth, suggesting instead that a broom closet could be used at a total cost of about \$10,000, instead of the final cost for the actual booth of about \$43,000

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

What message does it send to the American public if Mr. Pruitt switches his security detail chief and two other career officials involved with overseeing expenses and a political appointee who did the same thing, after these individuals raise concerns about spending and security practices? Was this appropriate?

## Ex. 5 AC/DP

Should Mr. Pruitt resign based on the series of questions that have been raised about his performance and if not why not?

# Ex. 5 AC/DP

**From:** Friedman, Lisa [<mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 10:02 AM

**To:** Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Request for comment please

Hi Jahan and Liz

We are finishing work on a story about the EPA that addresses concerns that were raised by certain HQ staff members related to travel, office spending and issues related to security protocols by the Office of the Administrator.

The story notes how four individuals who raised these objections--Kevin Chmielewski, John E. Reeder and Reginald E. Allen, and Eric Weese--were later transferred to different jobs, or moved on their own to a different job after being told to find a new role, or in Kevin's case, put on leave.

We know that there are different circumstances involving each of these individuals, three of whom are career and one is political. But we wanted to go in detail here through some of the issues that these staff members raised and then the way their jobs were shifted after their raised these issues.

We welcome your specific responses to these issues. But we need any response you want to offer by 3 p.m. today, Thursday, April 5.

Here are the specific factual assertions I welcome you to address;

++ Mr. Chmielewski objected to a proposal to buy a charter aircraft membership for \$100,000-per-month that would have allowed Mr. Pruitt to take an unlimited number of private jet trips for official business

++ One of these staff members objected to a proposal to spend more than \$70,000 to replace the desks in Mr. Pruitt's office suite, including both the administrator's personal desk and one at a security station just outside his office. Pasquale Perrotta argued that the desks should be replaced with a bullet-proof model. This purchase did not go ahead. Instead, a brown-maple wood stand-up desk, was purchased from an Ohio craftsman and a separate desk retrieved a federal government warehouse in Virginia and was refurbished at a cost of \$2,075 for Mr. Pruitt

++ The security detail lead questioned Mr. Pruitt's desire to utilize use of lights and sirens in his motorcade if he was running late, like on his way to a restaurant or airport. In at least one case, Mr. Pruitt wanted these used on his way to Le Diplomate,

++ A member of the security detail also made it be known that he would be reluctant to sign off on requests—which were part of his job to review—for authorization for Mr. Pruitt to fly first class, based on security concerns. Only after Mr. Perrotta took over as security detail lead did Mr. Pruitt begin to regularly fly first class.

++ Others questioned the need for an approximately 20 person security detail team, that provided 24-7 coverage, instead of 5 person "portal to portal" team with the prior EPA administrator.

++ At least one senior staffer questioned the need for the expenses associated with sound proof both, suggesting instead that a broom closet could be used at a total cost of about \$10,000, instead of the final cost for the actual booth of about \$43,000

As an aside, we know of the allegations raised against Mr. Chmielewski related to his security clearance that the IG investigated and found were not substantiated. We also know of complaints that he was hard to reach while he was out of the office doing advance work for the VP.

Finally a few additional questions.

## Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

2) What message does it send to the American public if Mr. Pruitt switches his security detail chief and two other career officials involved with overseeing expenses and a political appointee who did the same thing, after these individuals raise concerns about spending and security practices? Was this appropriate?

3) Should Mr. Pruitt resign based on the series of questions that have been raised about his performance and if not why not?

Thanks very much - I'm on my cell,  
Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman  
Reporter, New York Times

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

office  
cell

Message

---

**From:** Abboud, Michael [abboud.michael@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 4/11/2018 8:46:42 PM  
**To:** Elvina Nawaguna [elvinanawaguna@cqrollcall.com]; Press [Press@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS RELEASE: Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement

**“We will respond to Chairman Gowdy through the proper channel.”** EPA spokesman, Jahan

**From:** Elvina Nawaguna [mailto:elvinanawaguna@cqrollcall.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 4:45 PM  
**To:** Press <Press@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: PRESS RELEASE: Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement

Any response to this (below) letter from Oversight Chairman Gowdy? Does EPA intend to deliver the additional documents?

Working on a 5:30 p.m deadline.

Thanks!

Elvina Nawaguna  
Energy and Environment Reporter  
CQ Roll Call  
1625 Eye St. NW #200  
Washington, DC 20006

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **House Oversight Press** <[oversightpress@oversightrep.housecommunications.gov](mailto:oversightpress@oversightrep.housecommunications.gov)>  
**Date:** 11 April 2018 at 15:31  
**Subject:** PRESS RELEASE: Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement  
**To:** [elvinanawaguna@cqrollcall.com](mailto:elvinanawaguna@cqrollcall.com)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday, April 11, 2018  
PERMALINK

**CONTACT**  
Amanda Gonzalez  
202-225-0037

## **Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement**

**WASHINGTON** - Today, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Trey Gowdy sent a letter to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt to follow-up on the Committee's initial request for information related to Administrator Pruitt's official travel. Additionally, the Committee is evaluating a lease agreement between Administrator Pruitt and Ms. Vicki Hart.

### **Excerpts from the letter:**

*"...the EPA has failed to produce all the documents requested on February 20, 2018."*

*"Those requests include, but are not limited to, any documents referring or relating to 'specific, ongoing threats associated with the Administrator's air travel,' which was the stated basis for obtaining first class tickets in a March 20, 2018 letter from EPA Associate Administrator Troy Lyons."*

*"The April 4, 2018, memorandum raises questions about whether ethics officials who reviewed the lease had access to all relevant information, and whether all applicable ethics rules were considered when those officials concluded the lease agreement complied with federal ethics regulations."*

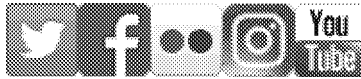
### **Background:**

- On February 20, Chairman Gowdy sent a letter to Administrator Pruitt requesting documents and information related to his official travel, including whether individual waivers were obtained when flying first or business class.

- On March 20, the Committee received documents from EPA responsive to our February 20 request. On April 9, EPA shared additional documents with the Committee during an in-camera review.
- Last week, the Committee obtained memoranda issued by the agency's Designated Ethics Official on March 30 and April 4 related to Administrator Pruitt's condo deal.

**Full text of the letter can be viewed [here](#).**

###



<https://oversight.house.gov/>

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Message

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**From:** Block, Molly [block.molly@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/29/2018 3:56:37 PM  
**To:** Press [Press@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Administrator's apartment

Jahan will handle.

**From:** Alex Guillen [mailto:aguillen@politico.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 11:56 AM  
**To:** Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Administrator's apartment

Hi,

ABC reports that Administrator Pruitt lived in a townhouse connected to a natural gas and auto lobbyist, J. Steven Hart. Can you confirm that? Does he still reside at that location? If not, is he currently renting from anyone with business before EPA?

Did EPA ethics officials approve his leasing that living space given the lobbying connections? If so, can I please get a copy of their approval?

Thank you,

Alex Guillén  
Energy Reporter  
POLITICO *Pro*

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

aguillen@politico.com | @alexaguillen



Message

---

**From:** Kevin Bogardus [kbogardus@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** 4/11/2018 7:41:45 PM  
**To:** Wilcox, Jahan [wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John [konkus.john@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln [ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael [abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James [hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Daniell, Kelsi [daniell.kelsi@epa.gov]; Block, Molly [block.molly@epa.gov]; Press [Press@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS RELEASE: Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement

Gotcha. Thanks Jahan. Adding to the piece.

-Kevin

**From:** Wilcox, Jahan [mailto:wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:41 PM  
**To:** Kevin Bogardus <kbogardus@eenews.net>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Daniell, Kelsi <daniell.kelsi@epa.gov>; Block, Molly <block.molly@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS RELEASE: Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement

**“We will respond to Chairman Gowdy through the proper channel.”** EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

**From:** Kevin Bogardus [mailto:kbogardus@eenews.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:39 PM  
**To:** Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Daniell, Kelsi <daniell.kelsi@epa.gov>; Block, Molly <block.molly@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: PRESS RELEASE: Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement

Hey everyone,

It's Kevin Bogardus with E&E News.

I'm working on a piece about Rep. Gowdy's letter to Administrator Pruitt about his condo lease. Does EPA have any reaction to this letter?

Please get back to me as soon as possible. My deadline is 4 pm EST today but the sooner you get back to me, the more it helps my reporting. Thank you for your help.

**Kevin Bogardus**  
E&E News reporter  
[kbogardus@eenews.net](mailto:kbogardus@eenews.net)



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**From:** House Oversight Press [<mailto:oversightpress@oversightrep.housecommunications.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 3:32 PM

**To:** Kevin Bogardus <[kbogardus@eenews.net](mailto:kbogardus@eenews.net)>

**Subject:** PRESS RELEASE: Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday, April 11, 2018  
[PERMALINK](#)

**CONTACT**  
[Amanda Gonzalez](#)  
202-225-0037

## **Gowdy Questions EPA Administrator Pruitt on Official Travel and Lease Agreement**

**WASHINGTON** - Today, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Trey Gowdy sent a letter to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt to follow-up on the Committee's initial request for information related to Administrator Pruitt's official travel. Additionally, the Committee is evaluating a lease agreement between Administrator Pruitt and Ms. Vicki Hart.

**Excerpts from the letter:**

*"...the EPA has failed to produce all the documents requested on February 20, 2018."*

*"Those requests include, but are not limited to, any documents referring or relating to 'specific, ongoing threats associated with the Administrator's air travel,' which was*

*the stated basis for obtaining first class tickets in a March 20, 2018 letter from EPA Associate Administrator Troy Lyons."*

*"The April 4, 2018, memorandum raises questions about whether ethics officials who reviewed the lease had access to all relevant information, and whether all applicable ethics rules were considered when those officials concluded the lease agreement complied with federal ethics regulations."*

**Background:**

- On February 20, Chairman Gowdy sent a letter to Administrator Pruitt requesting documents and information related to his official travel, including whether individual waivers were obtained when flying first or business class.
- On March 20, the Committee received documents from EPA responsive to our February 20 request. On April 9, EPA shared additional documents with the Committee during an in-camera review.
- Last week, the Committee obtained memoranda issued by the agency's Designated Ethics Official on March 30 and April 4 related to Administrator Pruitt's condo deal.

**Full text of the letter can be viewed [here](#).**

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